भारत सरकार ने शुष्क शौचालयों को जलधारित शौचालयों मे बदल कर सफाई कर्मचारियो की मुक्ति की एक योजना चलाई है। जहां शहरी विकास मंत्रालय ने बड़े नगरो के समावेश की योजनायें बनाई हैं, वहीं कल्याण मंत्रालय ने, "समग्र नगर उपागम" आधार पर छोटे और मध्यम नगरों में यह कार्यक्रम चलाया है। ग्रामीण विकास विभाग भी इस कार्यक्रम को ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों मे चला रहा है। इस प्रकार विमुक्त सफाई कर्मचारियों को अन्य व्यवसायों में पुनर्वासित किया जा रहा है।

Scheduled castes benefited by 20-point programme in Orissa

3298. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of Scheduled Castes benefited by 20-point programme in Orissa during the last three years upto the 31st Jan. 88;

(b) the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes persons who are still living below the poverty line in Orissa; and

(c) the steps being taken to bring them above the poverty line?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) During the last three years (from February, 1985 to January, 1988) 38.2 per cent of the total Scheduled Caste families (as per 1981 Census) in the State got financial assistance under 20 Point Programme.

(b) Information relating to number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe persons who are still living below the poverty line in the State is not available.

(c) The steps being taken to bring them above the poverty line include formulation of Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes and Tribal Sub-Plan for Scheduled Tribes, mobilising adequate resources. Economic assistance is being provided to them under family-oriented income-generating schemes under IRDP, ERJP and even non-IRDP programmes/schemes. Assistance to small and marginal farmers and composite programmes for the main occupational groups among the Scheduled Castes like weavers, leather workers fishermen, cultivators, sericulturists have also been taken up to bring them above the poverty line.

Inclusion of Physio Therapy and Occupational Therapy in rehabilitation courses

3299. KUMARI SAYEEDA KHATUN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rehabilitation Council has standardised the courses in Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry of Health has requested the Welfare Ministry not to include Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy in Rehabilitation Courses; and

(b) if so, the reasons for which these courses have been standardised?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) to (c) The Rehabilitation Council was constituted under Executive Order with the concurrence of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare who had agreed that physiotherapists and occupational therapists may also be included in the said Council. The Council accordingly circulated a model course for adoption by institutions under the Ministry of Welfare imparting training in Physiotherapy and occupational therapy which are essential in the work of rehabilitation. Subsequently the Ministry of Welfare propose to provide a statutory basis to the Rehabilitation Council. The Ministry of Health was consulted in the drafting of the Bill and they advised to keep physiotherapists and occupational therapists outside the Council to be set up by the legislation. The Bill has not been finalised.